

SHAC SEA SCOUT FLEET MEETING MINUTES/ 10/16/13

PRESENT: Wilson, Scharp, Sunker, Plante, Johnson, Walker, Knapp, Vaughn, Upchurch, Crowl, Leavitt, Lipham, Mulcahey, Behrmann, Gower, Hunn, Cushman, Houghton,

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Correction to Boats and Gear: The title to 'Too Much Trouble' is to be transferred to the Chartering organization of Ship 777 so that Ships 777 and Ship 1332 can share use and responsibilities.

WELCOME: No new faces at the table but welcome all.

MARKETING AND PUBLICITY: Check the Alert Page for employment opportunities for your youth at the Florida Seabase. Sea Scout Fast Start will be coming online soon. As of this message the links are not quite complete.

SAFETY: Bart finally got all present to fill out AVO cards self-assessing their skills as AVO's. This is a nice step forward in keeping track of fleet on-the-water capabilities.

BOATS AND GEAR: Marcus announced that a Dolphin 17 with sails was available in Humble, and Skipper Cushman of Ship 208 pounced on it.

FALL REGATTA: October 26 at Duessen park on Lake Houston. Skipper Kevin Plante said he'd pick up the ball on this one and Skipper Gower will be lending an experienced hand. Check in around 10:00 A.M. \$5 a head for lunch and stuff. See the flyer attached.

ADULT SAIL AND PLANNING MEETING: November 9. The plan is to circumnavigate the mid-bay depository, return to your respective slips and meet up with those who are driving at Mario's Flying Pizza, 618 NASA Parkway in Webster (between Highway 3 and I 45) around 6:30. The 'C' (think 'Sea") room is reserved. You can download their menu at www.ilovemariosflyingpizza.com and maybe print out some coupons.

SEA SCOUT ACADEMY: We have Camp Mohawk reserved for the MLK weekend. We will start to figure out boats and assignments in the next month. The application should go live on Doubleknot around the first of November and close around January 5.

TRAINING: Seabadge, Strake Conference Center, November 15-17. 34 to 35 attendees have signed up.

SEA SCHOOL: Was held by the Power Squadron at LYC this last weekend. This first weekend had nine students and even experienced boaters learned something in every seminar. The Houston Power Squadron plans to do it again next year and, with more time to plan it is hoped that attendance by folks with less boating experience will increase at next years' event.

SEABADGE UNDERWAY: Larry Behrmann proposed to hold a course out of Watergate on *Envie* on two weekends in April. For those wanting to sail on different waters, a course is being offered out of the Florida Seabase April 26-May 4 for \$360 not including travel expenses. A Course Director Course will be offered at the same time and place. Please see attachment.

NATIONAL MEETING REPORT: TW's suggestions for revising the Seabadge rutter to make it broader in its timeline and scope of options was adopted. Phone aps for the manual and other ways to make information easier to access was proposed. Uniforms and various patch changes are in the works. George is wearing the proposed Skipper's patch and all are free to submit their comments.

ROUNDTABLE: Skipper Houghton talked about the trove of Sea Scout and sailing stuff found in Andy Sacco's barn including sails and parts and cushions for Catalina 22's. Brett Upchurch, now a married dad who is coaching at a local school will be coming back as a mate. The Heloise tip of the day was that vinegar was great for cleaning up fiberglass. Skipper Gower informed us that the Port of Houston has spent over \$4,000,000 in facilities, equipment, salaries, fees and assorted ratholes to recruit students for the maritime professions and has to date recruited.....zero students. We'd like to have the Scouts have access to their simulator.

VENTURING EXECUTIVE'S MINUTE: Tony let us know that recharter time is coming up. The system should be open around November 1st so it is time to check to see if online training is up to date. Try to get it done by December 15th

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS: I mentioned that George sent out an email encouraging merit badge counselors to get their current forms submitted. I thought that it might be a good recruitment avenue for Sea Scout leaders to take on counseling badges; particularly taking on some of those required for Eagle. I also mentioned an email from an admissions recruiter down at Texas A & M Galveston looking for ways to contact Sea Scouts in the area. It seems the Sea Scouts we have sent to TAMUG have turned out to be great students with far more knowledge coming in than the average freshman.

MEETING ADJOURNED: At 2054 until November 9, 2013 at the Mario's Flying Pizza in Webster, 1830.

“If you do not change direction, you may end up where you are heading.” Lao Tzu

“A smile is your passport into the hearts of others” - recent fortune cookie